



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 10/080,697

Applicant: MAEDA et al.

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Examiner: K. Schubert

Docket No.: 401584

Customer No.: 23548

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated December 20, 2005, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.